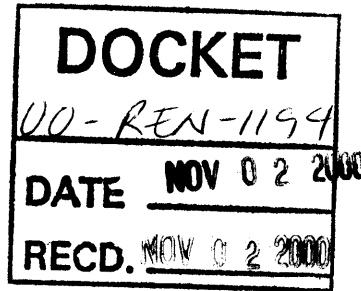


Independent Power Providers

Renewable Energy
Locally Owned Locally Produced



PO Box 231
North Fork, CA 93643
559 877 7080
FAX: 559 877 2980
E-MAIL i2p@aol.com
www.i2p.org

RE: Docket No. 00-REN-1194 Committee Workshops- Consumer Education and Emerging Investment Options, Thursday, November 2, 2000

Independent Power Providers (IPP) represents installing dealers of Photovoltaic and renewable energy systems. Our members serve residential and business end users of electricity. Our customers install Photovoltaic systems to augment the reliability of standard electric service, hedge against utility rate increases and to directly support environmental goals and ideals.

IPP members and our customers have benefited from the existing Emerging Renewables program administered by the CEC and we look forward to continued and increased support of this program.

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

IPP's response will follow the Commission's outline headed "Workshop Questions".

Emerging technologies:

14 & 15. Funding for emerging renewables as a percentage of total should remain at least at the level established under SB 90. In addition, the buy down should be increased to \$4/watt and remain constant over time, rather than diminishing.

16. SB 1194/AB 995 funds should be used to continue the SB 90 program

17. Non renewable fuel cell technology should not have an impact on the emerging renewables program. Though laudable based on efficiency considerations, non renewable fuel cell technology represents only an incremental improvement over combustion technology. It is not revolutionary-evolutionary as is renewable generation.

Customer education:

24. Customer education funding should be increased by 100%.

25. Customer education funding for emerging renewables has been a failure. Commission imposed barriers to dispersing the allocated funds under SB 90 should be removed.

26. SB 1194/AB 995 fund should be used to continue SB 90.

Additional comments:

Though not conventionally thought of as a generation technology, solar thermal should enjoy the same benefits as other renewable electric generation technologies. From the perspective of physics, BTUs of heat are equivalent to KWHs of electricity. For this reason, solar water heating should also be rewarded as a non-polluting generation technology.

An topic not mentioned in the Workshop questions is low or no-interest loans for renewable generation systems for consumers. This could be an additional incentive to encourage the adoption of renewable on-site generation.

Thank you for the opportunity to be heard on these matters.

Sincerely,
Don Lowebug
President Independent Energy Providers